

Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, CS

SUBJECT: OPIC SEMINAR FOR CAP EMBASSY/AID OFFICERS

1. OPIC PROPOSED TO CONDUCT A SEMINAR IN SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, JANUARY 15-16, 1975 FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROMOTING OPIC PROGRAMS IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND PANAMA (CAP) AND PROVIDING ORIENTATION FOR STATE AND AID OFFICERS WITH DUTIES RELATED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INVESTMENT AND TRADE. CAP HAS BEEN DESIGNATED A HIGH PRIORITY AREA FOR OPIC EFFORTS AND PROGRAM EXPANSION IS DESIRED. PROPOSED SITE IS HOTEL CORIARI, SAN JOSE.

2. PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE INVITED FROM THE RESIDENT U.S. BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT COMMUNITIES AND THE INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT COMMUNITIES. THE FIRST DAY, JANUARY 15, WOULD BE PROGRAMMED FOR USG PERSONNEL WORKING IN THE AREA, DEVELOPED AROUND THIS PRELIMINARY OUTLINE:

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1) OVERVIEW OF OPIC

- 2) OPIC'S ROLE IN U.S. FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY
- 3) CASE STUDIES OF INSURANCE AND FINANCE
- 4) THE ROLE OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPMENT
- 5) SPECIFIC OPIC PROGRAMS
- 6) OPIC PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

ON THE SECOND DAY, JANUARY 16, A FORMAL SEMINAR FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE PLANNED AROUND THE OUTLINE BELOW:

- 1) OVERVIEW OF OPIC
- 2) OPIC'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF CAP, ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL
- 3) CASE STUDIES OF INSURANCE AND FINANCE
- 4) THE COMPLEMENTARY ROLES OF BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT IN DEVELOPMENT
- 5) SESSIONS ON SPECIFIC OPIC PROGRAMS
- 6) DISCUSSIONS OF SPECIFIC POTENTIAL INVESTMENTS.

3. THE FOCUS OF DISCUSSION IN THE SECOND DAY, WHEN LOCAL BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ARE TO BE PRESENT, WOULD BE ON HOW JOINT VENTURES AND OTHER U.S. INVESTMENT ENCOURAGED BY OPIC CAN BENEFIT LOCAL ECONOMIES AND BUSINESS INTERESTS AND HOW OPIC CAN WORK WITH THEM TO FIND AND ATTRACT USEFUL U.S. TECHNOLOGY AND CAPITAL.

4. OPIC WOULD PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSED SEMINAR IN THE FORM OF AN ADVANCE MAN DURING THE TWO WEEKS PRECEDING THE SEMINAR AND HIRING OF TRANSLATORS AND OTHER TEMPORARY LOCAL HELP AS NECESSARY TO KEEP ANY BURDEN ON EMBASSY AT A MINIMUM. OPIC WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF LIAISON WITH GOCR AND LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY, PUBLICITY, AND SMALL AMOUNT OF REIMBURSIBLE PROCUREMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.

5. OPIC REQUESTS EMBASSY APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL TO HOLD SEMINAR IN SAN JOSE AND OF TENTATIVE DATES. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENT ON CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE IN COSTA RICA. IF EMBASSY SAN JOSE CONCURS, OPIC PLANS TO SEEK PARTICIPATION OF OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN POSTS AND PANAMA IN THE SEMINAR AND TO SEND ADVANCE MAN TO SAN JOSE AND OTHER POSTS TO DISCUSS AND FIRM UP PLANS.

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6. FOR SAN SALVADOR: OPIC ADVANCE MAN IS PLANNING TO STOP IN SAN SALVADOR OCTOBER 23 ON ROUTE TO SAN JOSE AND WILL TELEPHONE TAYLOR OF EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR REGARDING PURPOSE AND EMBASSY CONCURRENCE IN VISIT.
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